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GENEALOGY COLLECTION

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Harris



COLOR SCHEME OF CREST

EAGLE—Gold—standing on a spiral bar of alternating silver and black, red border line.

SHIELD—Silver, red border line.

LION—Black.

TRIANGLE—White, red border line, black lillies.

HARRIS—Gold letters.

ADDENDA

Contributed by Mrs. W. H. Hollinshead, Jan 8, 1932

From "The Harris Family of Virginia 1611-1914"

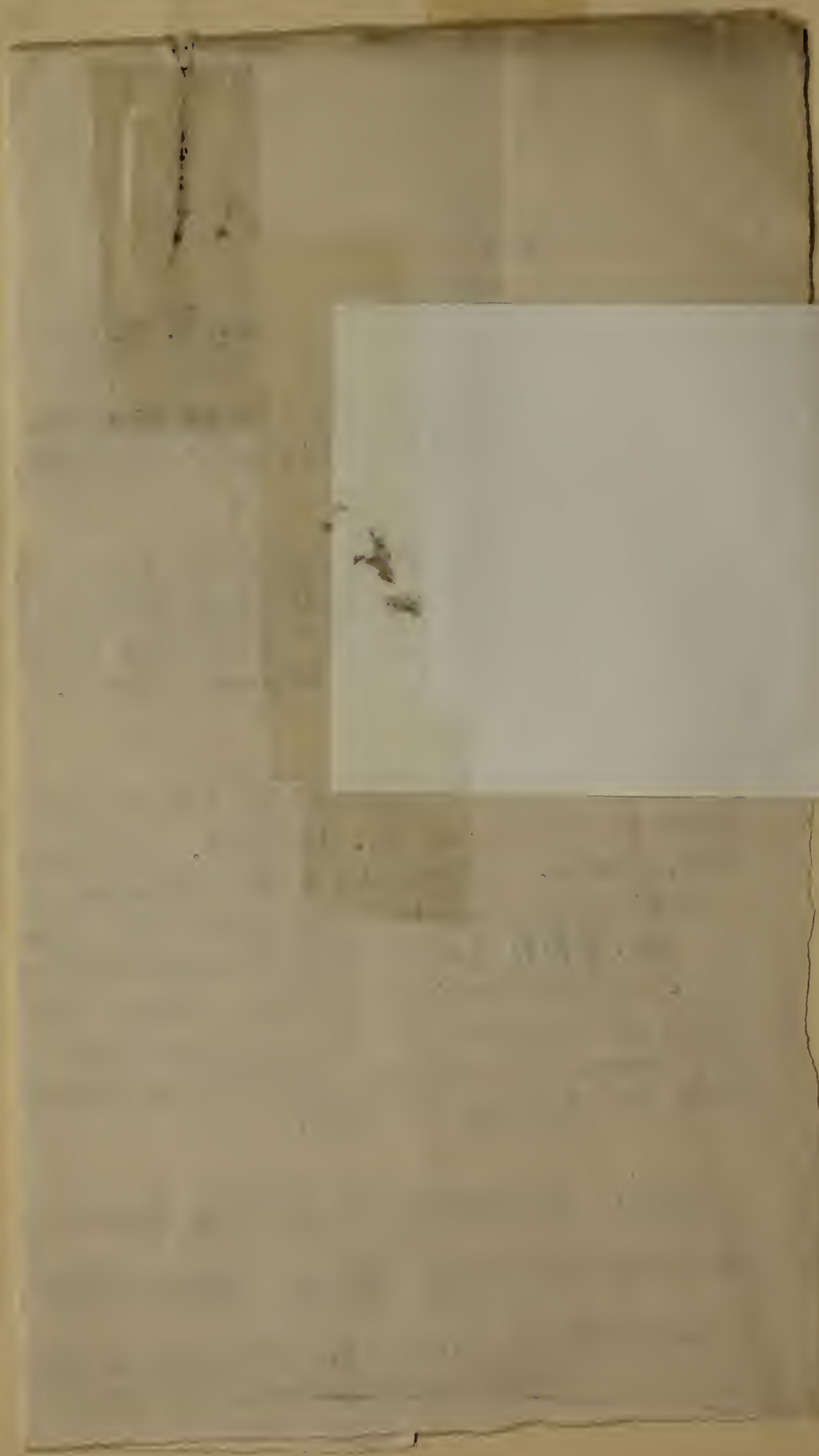
Thos. Henry Harris of Fredericksburg, Va.

Capt. Thos. Osborne settled in 1616 in Chesterfield Co. Va. at Coxendale, and in 1635 took patents for lands on Proctor's Creek. He was Justice of the Peace in 1631, member of Burgesses in 1639. Wife's name not found.

Thos. Harris was a member of the Virginia Company in 1609.

Came to Colony of Va. in 1611. Married 1st, Adria Osborne. 2nd, Joane. From the first marriage descended Major Robert Harris, who married the widow Mary Claiborne Rice, daughter of Gov. ~~John~~ Claiborne and Elizabeth Bristow Claiborne. Capt. Thomas Harris and Capt. Thomas Osborne came to Va. in 1611 and settled on lands now Henrico Co. Capt. Harris was second in command with Thomas Osborne in the long war with the Indians in 1622.

(Note. The Harris from Wales was Henry; Nathan of this line married Catherine Walton; Walton Harris md. Rebecca Lanier, whose mother was Eliz. Washington, in 1764.)



Harris

The ancestors of this family came from Glamorgan County, Wales, to France, then to England during the reign of Charles II, where they remained until their removal to America, probably near the middle of the seventeenth century and settled in the Colony of Virginia. The stock is Anglo-Welsh.

Robert Harris, one of the family, was born in Wales about 1635, died in 1701. (Taken from reliable data.) He was married in 1651 to Mrs. Mary Rice (nee Claiborne) and settled on the James River in Virginia. She was the daughter of William Claiborne and his wife Elizabeth Butler, who were married in 1621.

(Note): The Virginia Historical Magazine Vol. 1, Page 313 has the following in regard to the Claibornes of England: "The Ancient family from which Col. William Claiborne, the famous Colonial Secretary of Virginia, descended and derived its name from the Manor of Claiborne in Westmorland near the River Eden. The manor is named in Doomday Book in 1086 and the family was for many generations Lords of the Place and of Brumpton, Cundale and others. He was born in 1586, came to Virginia in 1621, being a member of a distinguished family, was sufficiently influential to obtain large grants of land from King Charles I. In 1628 was appointed the first Colonial Secretary of the Colony of Virginia and a member of the Council. He was sent to England by the Commonwealth of Virginia as a special Commissioner to resist the encroachment of Lord Baltimore, who claimed a large portion of Virginia as well as Maryland; was successful in this matter, but lost financially by his public spirit, however, was finally reimbursed by the State of Virginia (in a measure) for his losses during the Baltimore negotiations; was sent by Cromwell and his parliament to negotiate terms with the Colonies. In 1643 the King made him Treasurer for life. In the Northampton Records, April, 1653, is an order referring to the worshipful Colonel William Claiborne, Governor. He died 1678. His father is buried in the Claiborne Church in Yorkshire, England, tomb can be seen there now."

To Robert Harris and his wife, Mrs. Mary Rice (nee Claiborne), was born in 1652 a son, William. Their home was near Weyanoke, Virginia. The son William married Temperance Overton December 24, 1670 (the daughter of William Overton and his wife, Mary Walters, of Glen Cairn, Hanover County, Virginia).

(Note) : The said William Overton, born December 3, 1628, was a son of Colonel Robert Overton of England who distinguished himself at the battle of Marston Moor; accompanied Oliver Cromwell to Scotland, 1650; commanded a brigade of Iron Sides at the battle of Dunbar. He was a soldier and scholar, intimate friend of Milton, who celebrated his exploits in *Defensio Secunda*. He was a political prisoner for many years in Tower of London; was a voluminous writer on Philosophy and Religion (see Biographical Dictionary). The Records show that the Overtons received patents to Virginia lands aggregating 4322 acres at various times. Nearly every family of this line has had a son named Overton for over these hundred years.

William Harris, who married Temperance Overton, died March 8, 1687. He was buried in an Old Colonial Church at Weyanoke, on James River, and a bronze tablet marked his resting place. The Old Church long since going to ruin, on July 1, 1875, the tablet was found and moved to Norfolk, Virginia, and placed in St. Paul's Old Church. Engraved on the tablet is the following: "Here lyeth ye body of William Harris, who departed this life ye 8th day of March, 1687, aged 35 years."

From this emigrant sprang our American family. The blood courses in the veins of hundreds and hundreds of families, scattered all over America and elsewhere. The family as such is noted for courage, brains, patriotism and loyalty. Many have held and many now hold high positions of trust in various branches of learning, in the army, in the navy, and in every calling and profession, lawyers, some humorous and learned writers and famous physicians.

To William Harris and his wife Temperance Overton were born three sons: Christopher, born 1671; Robert, born 1673, and Overton, 1675.

From this on, I shall give only short stems of the other branches of the Harris family and go more into detail of my own line, that of Major Robert Harris, the second son.

Major Robert Harris, second son of William Harris and his wife Temperance Overton, was born in Hanover County, Virginia, in 1686. He was in the House of Burgesses from Hanover County 1736-40-42, was appointed by the King as Surveyor of the new County of Louisa, which was cut off from Hanover; was Justice of Peace of Louisa County. He afterwards moved to Albermarle County, was one of the early settlers on Doyle's River, obtained patents for more than 3000

acres in that vicinity, first entry made in 1750. (Page 221 Rev. E. Woods' History of Albermarle County.) He was Vestry man of Fredericksville Parish a number of years. His son Tyree succeeded him. His will bears date of June 18, 1765, probated August 8, 1765, recorded in Albermarle County Will Book No. 2, page 185, a copy of which is in William Harris Miller's Genealogy, page 267.

The female descendants of Major Robert Harris are eligible to membership in the United States National Society of Colonial Dames, on account of his services as a member of the House of Burgesses.

January 13, 1720, Major Robert Harris was married to Mourning Glen (born 1702, died 1770). She was a remarkable woman, kind, generous, charitable, a devout Christian, and much beloved by her acquaintances and offspring. Her children and descendants down through the generations have a daughter named Mourning Glen, showing their high estimation of her. (Note): Her brother, David Glen, was one of Captain Harrod's company of thirty men who, on January 2, 1777, went from Harrodsburg, Kentucky, by McClellon's Fort (Georgetown), Blue Licks and Maysville, struck the Ohio river near the mouth of Cabin Creek, for gunpowder, which they obtained at a great risk, and returned with it to Harrodsburg, the oldest town in Kentucky.

To Major Robert Harris and his wife, Mourning Glen, were born eleven children as follows:

ANNE, born March 31, 1724, married John Dabney.

CHRISTOPHER, born February 5, 1725, married first Mary Dabney on Feb. 22, 1745, (who was the daughter of Cornelius Dabney Sr. and his second wife, Sarah Jennings, only daughter of Charles Jennings of England.) To them were born eight children. Christopher Harris married his second wife, Agnes McCord in 1762, eleven children were born. He died in 1794 in Madison County, Kentucky.

TYREE, born April 8, 1728, first married Miss Chapman, second Mary Anne Simpson. He had eight children. He succeeded his father as Vestryman of Fredericksville Parish, Virginia. Went to Orange County, North Carolina, and became High Sheriff in 1766-67 under General Tyron, the Colonial Governor, was present and took part with him at the battle of Alamance, May 18, 1771. His will is on record, Caswell County, North Carolina, September 1, 1789. (See Colonial Records of North Carolina.) Wheeler's History shows his character and

his connection with the Regulator uprising, one of the factors bringing on the Revolution.

MARY, born February 10, 1729, married her cousin James Harris, who was born 1722, died 1792. To them were born ten children. Their son Nathan was the father of Honorable John T. Harris and Reverend William A. Harris, for many years Principal of the Female Seminary in Staunton, Virginia. Their son Joel was the grandfather of Joel Chandler Harris, who wrote "Uncle Remus."

WILLIAM, born March 15, 1730, in Frederic County, Maryland, married first Miss Mitchie, second Miss Thompson, third Hannah Jameson, died in 1776.

MOURNING GLENN, born March 27, 1732, married John Jouett, who was a Captain of Virginia State Militia in Colonial War. A signer of the Albermarle Declaration of Independence, April 21, 1779. He had two children, died in 1808. The following is taken from Frederick J. Haskin's account of the son's (Jack Jouett) ride that saved Thomas Jefferson from capture and British prison: "Jack Jouett, his father, and three brothers were all captains in the Revolutionary army—a record that it is said no other family made. The father was a friend and neighbor of Jefferson. The mother was of the Harris family and her given name was one to make moderns stop, listen and laugh—Mourning—a name that suggests that our colonial ancestors were as gloomy at christenings as at funerals."

LUCY, born April 12, 1734, married William Shelton, who was signer of Declaration of Independence of April 21, 1779, and died 1803.

SARAH, born May 24, 1736, was married to John Rodes May 24, 1756. He was born in Albermarle County, Virginia, November 16, 1729. He was executor of the will of his father-in-law (Major Robert Harris) which was probated in 1765. Their two children were Mary E. Rodes and Robert Rodes. Many of their descendants live in Kentucky.

ROBERT (my great grandfather), born March 8, 1741, married Lucretia Brown. (See another page).

RACHEL, born June 24, 1744, married William Dalton.

FRANCIS ELIZABETH, born January 27, 1746, married Joel Crawford. Their son, William Crawford, was a United States Senator from Georgia, Minister to France, Secretary of

Treasury under President Monroe, and prominent candidate for Presidency in 1824.

The previous records have been secured from Rev. Edgar Woods' History of Albermarle County, Virginia; Harris Genealogy by Gideon Dawes Harris, Columbia, Miss.; from Mrs. Theodore Shelton of St. Louis, Mo., which she obtained from old family Bible in the possession of Mrs. G. W. Clardy of Liberty, Mo., which must have belonged to Major Robert Harris, as it has dates of 1716-1721, but signed by Tyree Harris. On July 14, 1823, it was copied into an old Bible by Cliff Harris, son of Joel and Anne Harris, and grandson of James and Mary Harris. Mrs. G. W. Clardy (nee Malviry Harris) is a descendant. It was also taken from William Harris Miller's Genealogy and History. This is to show how various branches of the family agree in their dates and traditions, often without having heard anything from the rest.

(Note): The name Tyree came from a Virginia family, possibly through Mourning Glenn. Mourning is also a surname of another Virginia family, though it was often used as a given name.

My great grandfather, Captain Robert Harris (son of Major Robert Harris and his wife Mourning Glenn) was born March 8, 1741, married Lucretia Brown in 1762. She was born in 1746 (daughter of Benjamin Brown Sr. and his wife Sarah Dabney, who was a daughter of Cornelius Dabney Sr. and his wife Sarah Jennings). Robert Harris was a Captain of Virginia State Militia and served as same in Revolutionary War.

(Note): Sir Humphry Jennings of County Middlesex, England, had one son, Robert, who had two sons, William and Charles. William of Acton Place, London, accumulated an immense fortune of many million dollars and died a bachelor. Charles, his brother, had only one child, Sarah Jennings, who was an intimate friend of Mrs. Cornelius Dabney, while they lived in England, and spent a great deal of time with her, who was an invalid and when the Dabney family emigrated to America Sarah Jennings came with them. Mrs. Dabney lived only a short time after arriving in America, and after a while in 1721, said Cornelious Dabney married Sarah Jennings, and they reared a large family.

(See William Harris Miller's History and Genealogy.)

Captain Robert Harris and family moved from Albermarle County, Virginia, to Surry County, North Carolina. Their children were as follows: Elijah Harris, Tyree Rodes Harris (my

grandfather), Bazaleel Brown Harris, Bernice Harris (Lucretia Harris), Mourning Harris who married Mr. Burch, Nancy who married Mr. Blackwell.

His will was probated November, 1809. You will find an exact copy of it on another page, which I secured from the Court Records of Dodson, County Seat of Surry County, North Carolina.

Uncle John Branham said he went from Tennessee to stay with his mother in Kentucky, while his step-father, Esquire Tyree Rodes Harris went to North Carolina to be with his father during his last illness in 1809, so you see the dates correspond exactly.

My grandfather, Tyree Rodes Harris (the second son of Captain Robert Harris and his wife Lucretia Brown), was born March 15, 1765. He emigrated to Kentucky when quite a young man, bringing with him two servants, Spencer and Molly. Before the Civil War, he gave them their freedom and a home on his farm, where they lived and died.

When Tyree Rodes Harris arrived in Kentucky, he purchased a farm north of Lancaster, Garrard County, which was owned by him and his family for 115 years. I, the daughter of Russell A. Harris was the last one of the Harris name to own the old place. He was magistrate for several terms and entrusted with many affairs of importance by his brethren of the County bench. Was High Sheriff of Garrard County, and representative in the Legislature in 1839-40. He rode to Frankfort on horseback, taking his servant Spencer with him. He was a man of decided efficiency, both in his private business and in matters of public concern. He died 1841, and was buried in family cemetery on his farm, which is still kept by the family as several of their folk are buried there.

A. Tyree Rodes Harris, the second son of Captain Robert Harris and his wife, Lucretia Brown, after arriving in Kentucky and purchasing a farm, first married Sophy Herd, born 1773. The Herd family came to Kentucky about the same time and bought a farm joining the Harris farm. To them were born six children.

I. Bright Berry Harris, who married Sally Walton of Tennessee.

II. John Harris, who married Annie Dabney Brown of Tennessee.

III. Susan Harris, married Absalom Bell from Ohio.

IV. Elijah, died a bachelor, was a fine musician.

V. Annie Harris, married Samuel McMullen of Garrard County, Ky.

VI. Bettie Harris, married Hiram Beazley, lived in Garrard County, Ky.

I. Bright Berry Harris (born January 6, 1791, in Garrard County, Kentucky) was the son of Tyree Rodes Harris and his first wife, Sophy Herd. He emigrated to Sumner County, Tennessee, when quite young, died April 27, 1865. He married Sallie Walton (born November 6, 1794, died January 6, 1863) and their children were as follows:

A. Tyree, born January 13, 1812, died early in life.

B. Isaac W., born July 4, 1814, married Martha Hassell.

C. John, born December 7, 1817, died in early manhood.

D. Allen, born October 20, 1821, married Mary Ann Parker.

E. Albert, born December 28, 1823, married Elizabeth Hassel, second Mary Houston Caldwell.

F. Elijah, born March 20, 1826, married Jennie Watkins.

G. Anne E., born August 12, 1828, married Milus Hassell.

H. Martha K., born October 15, 1830, married Guy Douglas.

I. Susan C., born March 1, 1833, married Graham Gillespie.

Sarah J., born July 31, 1837, married William Gray.

D. Dr. Allen Harris (son of Bright B. Harris and his wife, Sally Walton) was born October 20, 1821, died January 30, 1884, married Mary Ann Parker (the daughter of Daniel Easley Parker, who came from Virginia to Dyer County, Tennessee, in 1826) who was born ——— died December 25, 1901. Their children were as follows:

(1) James Polk, married first Elizabeth Smith Coulter, and second Manassa V. Storey.

(2) Martha Elizabeth, first married Andrew S. Parks, second married E. R. Dilmore.

(3) Bright Berry, married Frances McClean, Columbia, Tennessee.

(4) Daniel Parker, died young.

(5) Isaac Walton, died in early manhood.

(6) Mary Allen married Charles E. Waldran, Memphis, Tenn.

(7) Stonewall Jackson, married Lee Webb, Newbern, Tenn., died October, 1926.

Dr. Allen Harris was the first of the Harris family to settle in Dyer County, in 1845. Next came his brother, Albert, and sister Martha, other relatives, the Bells and Waltons came later.

E. Albert Harris (son of Bright Berry Harris and his wife, Sallie Walton) born December 28, 1823, first married Elizabeth Hassell, second Mary Houston Caldwell of Trenton, Tenn. His children were as follows:

- (1) Kate, married James Conner, Corona, Calif.
- (2) Jennie, married E. G. Robinson, Venice, Calif.
- (3) Isaac, married Jennie Tucker, Newbern, Tenn.
- (4) Will Allen married Nellie Allen, Los Angeles, Calif.
- (5) Martha, married W. S. Coover, Dyersburg, Tenn.
- (6) Lucy Houston, only child by second wife, married Robert Westbrook, Riverside, Calif.

The two sons, Isaac and William, passed away some years ago, all the daughters are living.

H. Martha Harris (daughter of Bright B. Harris and his wife, Sallie Walton) born October 15, 1830, married Guy Douglas, had five children, namely:

- (1) Anne Eliza, married J. C. Haskins, Newbern, Tenn.
- (2) Sarah, married H. A. Dean, Uvalde, Texas.
- (3) Alice, married B. R. Parks, Newbern, Tenn.
- (4) Reubin, died early.
- (5) Charles, died early.

Mrs. J. C. Haskins and Mrs. H. A. Dean are the only members of the family now alive; 1922.

B. Isaac Walton Harris (born July 4, 1814, died May 15, 1884) son of Bright Berry Harris and Sallie Walton, married Martha King Hassell (born June 3, 1815, died May 15, 1856) March 12, 1839, and to them were born the following children:

1. Tyree Walton, born February 29, 1840, died October 1, 1876.
2. Conquest Cross, born January 24, 1842, died November 16, 1906.
3. Bright Jennett, born January 19, 1844, died October 30, 1864.
4. Sarah Jane, born December 29, 1846, died May 8, 1924.

5. Isaac, born June 3, 1848.

6. Albert Gallatin, born March 24, 1850, died November 18, 1891.

7. Milus King, born March 31, 1853.

Martha King, born December 5, 1854, died June 6, 1856.

1. Tyree Walton Harris, married Kate Binkley, and to them were born the following children:

(a) Martha, died young.

(b) Isaac, married Nellie Handcock, had one child, Alice, who married Porter Crandall, one child, Martha Jane.

(c) Susan, married ——— Black, two children.

(d) James R. Harris, married ———.

2. Conquest Cross Harris married Pattie Lewis and to them were born the following children:

(a) Bright and Conquest, died when young.

(b) Martha King Harris, married A. S. Hays, and they had one child, Julia Hays.

(c) Milus Harris, married Kate ——— and they had one child, Velda.

(d) Lamar Harris, married Katherine Tuck Smith November 28, 1916, and they had three children, Virginia Hays, born August 19, 1917; Martha King, born June 12, 1921; Pattie Anne, born November 26, 1926.

3. Bright Jennett Harris was killed in battle in the Civil War—a bachelor.

4. Sarah Jane Harris, married James G. Vanghan, and they had two children:

(a) Rose, who married Fennell Turner.

(b) Mary O., who married Dr. H. B. Carre. (Second marriage to Dr. Isaac John, no children.)

5. Isaac Harris married Hay Gass, and to them was born one child, Anna Laura.

(a) Anna Laura Harris married Wm. A. Clark and to them were born the following children:

(1) Wm. Alton Clark,

(2) David Clark, married Nancy R. Malone.

(3) Josephine Clark, married James Forsythe, had the following children: James Alban and Martha Ann.

(4) Mary Rose Clark, married Paul Kirkpatrick.

(5) Julian Clark.

6. Albert Gallatin Harris, married Margaret King, and to them were born the following children:

(a) Wm. Green, married Susan Hall, and they had one child, Mary Hall Harris.

(b) Carrie, who died young.

(c) Mary Walton, unmarried.

(d) Janie, married Tudor B. Carre and they had the following children: Margarette and Janie.

(e) Martha L., married McKee Mhoon and they had one child, McKee Mhoon.

(f) Albert Bright Harris, married Susan Wogstaff and they had the following children, Harriet, Mary Walton, Bright, Tyree W. and Susan.

(g) Margarette, married Thos. N. Hancock, and they had the following children: Thos. N., Florence King, Milus Harris, William Tyree and Margarette.

(h) Julia, married Arch Jack.

7. Milus King Harris, married Julia Tyree, no children.

F. Elijah Harris, son of Bright B. Harris and Sarah Walton Harris, was born March 20, 1826, and died July 21, 1908; married December 18, 1850, to Mahalia Virginia Watkins, born March 23, 1832, died March 17, 1914, and to them were born the following children:

(1) Chas. Gran Harris, born October 7, 1851, bachelor.

(2) Allen Harris, born December 10, 1853, married June 27, 1897, to Bell Kirk, and to them were born the following children:

(a) Cora Elizabeth Harris, born March 21, 1898, died February 23, 1924.

(b) Virginia Louise Harris, born August, 1900.

(c) Martha Elizabeth Harris, born 1901.

(d) Gran Watkins, born 1909.

(e) Edith A. Harris.

3. Eliza White Harris, born October 12, 1857, died September 14, 1915, married October 7, 1880 to Hugh McGavock, and to them the following children were born:

(a) William Allen McGavock, born August 16, 1881, married Irene Rice.

(b) Elijah Harris McGavock, born May 21, 1883, married Hattie Doss.

(c) Loulie McGavock, born March 10, 1886, married in 1906 to Thomas E. Stratton and to them the follow-

ing children were born: Thomas McGavock, Edward Mosely and Charles William.

(d) Charles Gran McGavock, born June 4, 1888, married Pearl Cage and to them the following children were born: Walter, Ann Eliza, Charles William.

(e) Virginia Watkins McGavock, born June 25, 1888, married J. R. Charlton.

4. Thomas Tally Harris, born March 20, 1860, married September 1, 1897, to Sallie Louise Goodloe and to them the following children were born:

(a) Francis Alberta, born July 2, 1898, and married November 31, 1917, to Henry Ward, and to them were born the following children: Louise, Janie, Goodloe Hall.

(b) Thos. Goodloe Harris, born February 22, 1900, married to Gertrude Brizindine.

(c) Eliza McGavock Harris, born October 25, 1902.

(d) James Gran Harris.

5. James Watkins Harris, born March 4, 1865, married February 25, 1903, to Fannie May Bainbridge, and to them was born one child:

(a) Valeria Elizabeth Harris.

G. Ann E. Harris, daughter of Bright B. Harris and Sarah Walton, married Milas J. Hassell, and to them were born the following children:

(1) Elijah McCorkle Hassel, married Helen Duncan, and to them were born the following children:

(a) Milus Harris.

(b) Sanford.

(2) Sarah Hassell, died young.

(3) Martha Hassell, married Wm. K. Walton and to them were born the following children:

(a) Annie, married Lewis Payne.

(b) Sallie K., married Dr. Meredy.

(4) Jennett B. Hassell, married Annie Cook, second wife Emma Cook, no children.

(5) Isaac W. Hassell, married Pennie Freeman, and to them was born one child, Charles.

(6) Charles G. Hassell, married Margaret Estis, no children.

(7) Tyree Harris Hassell, married Jane Lewis, and to them were born two children, Martha and Mary Alice.

I. Susan Harris, daughter of Bright B. Harris and Sarah Walton, married Graham Gillespie, and to them the following children were born:

1. Bright Harris, married Marie Taylor, no children.
2. Jacob, bachelor, died 19—.
3. Benjamin B., married Anna Lou McGavock, and to them the following children were born:
 - (a) Frank, who married Georgia DeBose. Their children were Nellie, married Paul Hite, and Ann and Adelaide.
4. Nellie, married Lea Head and they had one child, Charles.
5. Frank B. Gillespie, married Lillie Barnes, and to them the following children were born:
 - (a) Graham.
 - (b) Mildred.
 - (c) William.

J. Sarah Jane Harris, daughter of Bright B. Harris and Sarah Walton, married Wm. Allen Gray, May 23, 1856. Their children were as follows:

- (1) Kate Ann Gray, married Henry B. Blue and they had the following children:
 - (a) Mary Jane.
 - (b) Willard Harris.
 - (c) Andrew Miller.
 - (d) Douglas.
2. Charles Wm. Gray, married Mattie Green, and they had one child, Bessie.
3. Bright Harris Gray, who married Jessie Nelson Newsome, one child, Bright Nelson.
4. Mack Hassell Gray, who married Carrie Patterson, no children; second wife, Eula Patton, no children.
5. Sallie Walton Gray, married Charles B. Brown, no children.
6. William Allen Gray, Jr., married Nora Wise, and they had the following children:
 - (a) Allen Wise.
 - (b) Sarah Brown.
 - (c) Ruth Wise.
7. Susan Graham Gray married James Orville Gambill, and they had the following children:
 - (a) Wm. Orville.
 - (b) Houston Franklin.
 - (c) Walton Gray.

II. John Harris (the son of Tyree Rodes Harris and his first wife, Sophy Herd) was born April 6, 1795, died April 2, 1870. He married Annie Brown (daughter of Robert Brown and his wife Betsy Grimshaw). (See page for Brown family). Annie Brown was born July 5, 1799, died April 21, 1880. The children of John Harris and his wife, Annie Brown, were as follows:

- A. Reubin, who married Miss Lipscomb.
- B. Bright Berry, first married Lucy Banford; second, Mrs. Mary Anderson.
- C. John, who married Lula Burtrice.
- D. Elijah, who married Susan Ray, had one son, John Harris.
- E. Tilford, Confederate soldier, killed in Dutton Hill fight.
- F. Tyree, died a bachelor.
- G. Mary, married James Beazley.
- H. Martha, married Alexander Harris, son of Arabia Harris.
- I. Almira B., married Russell Denton, son of Thompson Denton and his wife, Josephine C. Harris.

III. Susan Harris (daughter of Tyree Rodes Harris and his first wife, Sophy Herd) was born in 1797, married Absalom Bell in 1814.

(Note): We find from family record that in 1800 or near that time three brothers of the Bell family emigrated from Scotland and settled in America. Their names were Thomas, Absalom and another, whose name I do not know. The family name was Beal, but pronounced Bell, and so came to be spelled Bell. Thomas Bell settled in Maryland, Absalom Bell in Ohio, and the other brother in Missouri. Absalom owned the land where Cincinnati now stands, and sold it in 1816 for \$500.00, and moved to Sumner County, Tennessee. We have in our possession a large arm chair which Aunt Susan Harris Bell brought to her father for a birthday present, said to have been made before there was a brick building in Cincinnati, Ohio. The children of this union were as follows:

- 1. Tyree Harris Bell (Confederate General).
- 2. Thomas H. Bell.
- 3. Sarah Bell.

General Tyree Harris Bell (son of Absalom Bell and his wife, Susan Harris) was born in Ohio September 7, 1815, was about one year old when the family moved to Tennessee. He

was a Confederate General and while camping at Camp Dick Robinson in Garrard County, Kentucky, he visited his Uncle Russell A. Harris at the Old Harris Homestead, where he had spent the greater part of his boyhood days with his grandfather, Honorable Tyree Rodes Harris. He told me of this visit and so much about his old friends and acquaintances in Garrard County while on his last visit to Sumner County, Tennessee. I was visiting there at the same time, and it was a happy privilege to be entertained with him at a dinner given by Cousin Ben Bell and his wife, in our honor. He died on his way back to California in August, 1902, and was buried on his birthday. He married Mary Anne Walton of Sumner County, Tennessee, in 1841. Their children were as follows:

- A. James William Bell, died during War between states.
- B. Isaac Thomas Bell, born 1844, died 1914.
- C. Russell Bell, born 1846, died during Civil War.
- D. Susan Bell, born 1848.
- E. Sarah Catharine Bell, born 1850, died 1909.
- F. Cynthy Anne Bell, born 1852.
- G. Joseph Walton Bell, born 1854.
- H. Tyree Alexander Bell, born 1856.

I. John Richard Bell, born November 28, 1858, died June 7, 1911.

B. Isaac Thomas Bell (son of General Tyree Harris Bell and his wife, Mary Anne Walton) was an Aide de Camp to General Bell the last two years of the Civil War, with the rank of Captain. He married Serephina Elizabeth Smith March 17, 1868. He died 1914. His widow still lives with her daughter, Mrs. Samuel Cary Dunlap. Their five children were as follows:

1. James Warren Bell, born 1870, married Alice Cock-erham in 1906. Home in Alaska. Three children, Helen, born 1907; Ruth, born 1910, and James Warren Jr., born 1912.

2. William Jordan Bell, born 1873, married Grace Kendrick in 1900. Their children: Kendrick Jordan Bell, born 1901, and Mildred Jane Bell, born in 1905.

3. John Tyree Bell, born 1875, married Minnie Lauhaum in 1915.

4. Anna May Bell, born 1877, married Samuel Cary Dunlap in 1908. One child, Sue Elizabeth Dunlap, born 1909.

(Note): "Anna May Bell was born in Lexington, Tennessee, but was educated in California, graduated from the Visalia High School in 1896, and from Stan-

ford University in 1900. She taught in Visalia Grammar School, also in the Visalia High School. She also taught English literature and Composition two years in the Los Angeles Polytechnic High School. She was elected President of the California Division, United Daughters of Confederacy, in 1911 and re-elected for another term. Mrs. Dunlap is a beautiful, gifted and charming woman and is peculiarly fitted for the high position she holds through her executive ability. The California Division is proud to honor her with its highest office."—Taken from the Confederate Veteran, May, 1912, published in Nashville, Tennessee.

D. Susan Bell (daughter of General Tyree Harris Bell and his wife Mary Anne Walton) was born in 1848, married Rubin Green Harrell in 1866. Their six children were as follows:

1. Margaret Bell Harrell, born 1867, married D. C. Farnham in 1906.

2. Willie Maud Harrell, born 1870, married Darius Enoch Perkins in 1892, two children:

- (a) Louis Irene Perkins, born 1893, Married Fred C. Scott in 1917.

- (b) Virginia Bell Perkins, born 1895, married Wade Finch in 1917, one child: Thomas Wade Finch, born 1919.

3. Myrtle Eloise Harrell, born 1872.

4. Bettie Harrell, born 1874, died 1877.

5. Katherine May Harrell, born 1886, married Enoch Doyle in 1903.

6. Reube Anna Harrell, born 1886, died 1897.

E. Sarah Catharine Bell (daughter of General Tyree Harris Bell and his wife Mary Anne Walton) born 1850, married Isaac H. Walton in 1868. Their nine children were as follows:

1. William Walton, died in infancy.

2. Bell Walton, died in infancy.

3. Edgar Allen Walton, born 1873, married.

4. John Timothy Walton, born 1876, married Myrtle Walker, two children:

- (a) Emory Walton.

- (b) Earl Walton.

5. Joe Earnest Walton, born 1878, married.

6. Minnie May Walton, born 1881, married Harry O'Connell.

7. Birchie Emma Walton, born 1883, died 1887.

8. Anne Elizabeth Walton, born 1889.
9. Forrest Walton, born 1891, married 1918.

F. Cynthia Anne Bell (daughter of General Tyree Harris Bell and his wife Mary Anne Walton) was born 1850, married John G. P. Ledsinger in 1877. Their children were:

1. Charles Harris Ledsinger, born 1877, died 1901.
2. John Penelton Ledsinger, born 1881, died 1901.

G. Joseph Walton Bell (son of General Tyree Harris Bell and his wife, Mary Anne Walton) was born 1854, married Mary Evaline Rogers in 1880. Their children were as follows:

1. J. W. Bell, Jr., died in infancy.
2. Carrie May Bell, born 1883.
3. Russel, born 1888, married _____.
4. Christine Bell, died in infancy.
5. Myra Bell, born 1892, married Albert Clark in 1912, no issue.
6. Irena Maud Bell, born 1895, married Harold Horton in 1912. Three children:
 - (a) Joe Russell Horton, born 1914.
 - (b) Dorothy Horton, born 1916.
 - (c) Bettie Jane Horton, born 1917.

H. Tyree Alexander Bell (son of General Tyree Harris Bell and his wife Mary Anne Walton) born 1856, married Sarah Emmeline Madden in 1887. Two children:

1. Mary Gertrude Bell, born 1888, married Myron C. Miller in 1912. Children:
 - (a) Virginia Bell Miller, born 1915.
 - (b) Catherine Louise Miller, born 1919.
2. Julia Emma Bell, born 1891.

I. John Richard Bell (son of General Tyree Bell and his wife Mary Anne Walton) was born November 28, 1858, died June 7, 1911. Married on December 20, 1885, Ida T. Cole, born March 18, 1865. To them were born the following children:

1. Mary Jane Bell, born October 31, 1886, married J. Wise Brown on June 9, 1909. Their children were:
 - (a) Sue Bell Brown, born February 8, 1912.
 - (b) John Jacob Bell Brown, born February 3, 1916.
2. Georgia Emma Bell, born September 23, 1890, was married to Chris Kastner on December 31, 1913. Their children were:
 - (a) Ida Elizabeth Kastner, born September 20, 1916.

(b) Georgia William Thomas Kastner, born July 16, 1919.

(c) Georgia Bell Kastner, died July 20, 1919.

3. William Thomas Bell, born May 2, 1892, died April 3, 1905.

4. Frank Tyree Bell, born August 14, 1896, married April 26, 1918, to Maud Kirkpatrick. Their children were:

(a) Eugene Kirk Bell, born January 14, 1919.

(b) John Richard Bell, born April 23, 1921.

5. Audley Richard Bell, born February 20, 1899.

III-2. Thomas H. Bell (son of Absalom Bell and his wife Susan Harris) was born ————, married Sophy Douglas Green. Their children were:

1. Maggie, who married Thomas Pardue.

2. William Green Bell, killed in battle.

3. Kleber Miller Bell, bachelor.

4. Bennett Douglass Bell, married Lillie Cartwright, Nashville.

5. John Walton Bell, married Joan Samuels.

6. Sophy Green Bell, married Zack Green.

7. Susanna Bell, married George Doubleday.

8. Mary Miller Bell, married Frank D. ————.

9. Tyree Bell, married Mattie Hardie.

10. Thomas Bell, bachelor.

III-3. Sarah Bell (daughter of Absalom Bell and his wife, Susan Harris) was born ————, married Wm. Douglass. Their children were:

1. Jane, who married Mat Walker.

2. Susan, who married Dr. ——— Nuckols.

3. Wylie, who married Fannie Roscoe.

4. Eliza, who married Henry Worsham.

VI. Bettie Harris (daughter of Tyree Rodes Harris and his first wife, Sophy Herd) married Hiram Beazley. Their children were:

1. Ann, who married Henry C. Arnold. Their children were:

(a) James, who married Kate Sweeney. To them were born William, married Miss Hair; Charles, married Jennie Burnside; Edd, married Minnie Cotton; Elizabeth.

(b) Elizabeth, who married Uriah Simpson. Their

children were Henry, who married; Katie, who married Ephriam Brown; John.

(c) Henry who married.

A. Tyree Rodes Harris, son of Captain Robert Harris and his wife, Lucretia Brown, in 1806 married his second wife, Mrs. John Branham (nee Rachel Brown) who was born in 1780, had two children, John Branham and Barthenia Branham. She was the daughter of Arabia Brown, born 1755, and his wife Elizabeth Doolin, who was born March, 1756, married in 1778, died September 25, 1849, was the mother of twelve children, a woman of wonderful physical strength, active and in fine health, retaining her mental strength unimpaired until her sudden death, past the age of ninety-two. Arabia Brown lived to be ninety, died March 13, 1845. He enlisted in the Revolutionary War in Bedford County, Virginia. Was in Captain Boone's company. After the war he came to Kentucky, bought a farm in Garrard County near Lancaster, where he lived and reared a large family. The names of some of the other children were:

(a) Stephen Brown, married Miss Pearl of Crab Orchard, Kentucky.

(b) Harvey Brown, married Miss Owsley, a sister to Governor Owsley.

(c) Malvina Brown, married Baylor Jennings.

(d) Nancy Brown, married William Spratt.

(e) Arabia J. Brown (Major in Militia) married Miss McKinsey.

A. Honorable Tyree Rodes Harris and his second wife, Mrs. John Branham (nee Rachel Brown) had the following children:

1. Greenberry, married Mary Bryson of Tennessee.

2. Arabia J. Harris, married Mrs. John Beazley (nee Sally Anne Hiatt).

4. Josephine C. Harris, married Thompson Denton.

5. Overton Dabney Harris, married Ietitia Pearce.

7. Martha Tyree Harris, married Jake Brown.

A-1. Greenberry B. Harris (son of Honorable Tyree Rodes Harris and his second wife, Mrs. John Branham (nee Rachel Brown), was born December 13, 1807, near Lancaster, Garrard County, Kentucky. When quite young he moved to Nashville, Tennessee, and served an apprenticeship at the stone mason trade. He married Mary Gillespie Bryson. They were both lovely Christians. I remember to have visited them just

before Uncle Green passed away. Every Sunday morning (rain or shine) the dear good couple would go to Old Union Church, thus observing "neglect not the assembling of yourselves together." Even if they had no preacher, Uncle Green would preside over the Comunion Table. Their children were as follows:

1. James Overton Harris, born February 27, 1832, married Amanda Crenshaw.

2. Tyree Bryson Harris, born February 2, 1833, married Lucy Dickerson.

3. Mary Jane Harris, born January 2, 1834, married William M. Stewart.

4. Rachel Malvina Josephine Harris, born November 30, 1835, married William Brown. Their children were Harris Brown, Alice Brown and George Brown.

5. Emily Lenora Harris, born November, 1837, married Dabney Dickerson.

6. George Gillespie Bryson Harris, born February 26, 1840, married Elizabeth Hanna.

7. John Branham Harris, born August 30, 1844, married Amanda Brown.

8. Elizabeth Green Harris, born March 8, 1848, married Charles Brown.

9. Russell C. Harris, born July 22, 1853, married first Mrs. Bettie Hill Norris. Their children were:

A-3. Russell C. Harris' second wife was Miss Belmont Gillespie. They had two sons.

A-1-3. Mary Jane Harris (daughter of Greenberry Harris and his wife Mary Gillespie Bryson) married Marion William Stewart. To them were born four children:

1. Frank Alexander Stewart, married Grace Cutting. They had one daughter, Katherine Stewart, who married Eugene Boyd.

2. William J. Stewart, married Annie Miller. Their children were Joseph Stewart and Mildred Stewart.

3. Mary Issabell (Polly) married Waller Chenault. They had three sons:

- (a) Frank Stewart Chenault.

- (b) William Marion Chenault.

- (c) Harry Chenault, married Malvina Sweeney.

4. Anna Stewart, married Charles Pond; one son, Charles Pond.

A-2. Arabia J. Harris (son of Honorable Tyree Rodes Harris and his second wife, Mrs. John Branham nee Rachel Brown) was born October 13, 1815, and married Ellen Ready. Their children were:

- (a) Tyree Harris, married Martha Pearce.
- (b) Alexander Harris, married Martha Harris (daughter of John Harris and his wife, Annie Brown).
- (c) Overton Harris, married Miss Singleton.
- (d) Mary Harris, married Mr. Wells.

A-3. Russell A. Harris (son of Honorable Tyree Rodes Harris and his second wife, Mrs. Rachel Branham (nee Brown) was born November 20, 1809, in Garrard County, Kentucky, on the farm his father purchased when he arrived in Kentucky. He was the only member of the family who was not given a family name, but his name goes down through the descendants, showing the love and high esteem in which he was held by his children, step-children and relatives.

At about eighteen years of age he went to Tennessee to visit his brothers and half sister, where he remained for some time, engaging in business with his brothers. His nephews and nieces were devoted to him, as he was more like an older brother to them. His nephew, Tyree Harris Bell, came to Kentucky with him and lived with his grandfather for whom he was named.

After his father's death, Russell A. Harris bought out the interest of the other heirs, still keeping the farm in the Harris name, and built a large frame house, joining a part of the old brick, which his father built. Here his mother lived in his loving care till her death on March 3, 1855. He engaged in stock raising, especially hogs and was a partner in a large pork packing house in Louisville, Ky. I have in my possession a very handsome gold pen and pencil, which was presented to him at a banquet of the company, in appreciation of his personal service.

In 1844 R. A. Harris and John Beazley were appointed on a committee to visit Henry Clay and urge him to become a candidate for president on the Whig ticket. I have often heard him speak of this visit and the very cordial reception they received from the great statesman.

On February 8, 1857, R. A. Harris married Mrs. John Beazley (the widow of his personal friend and business partner). Her maiden name was Sally Ann Hiatt, (daughter of Elijah Hiatt and his wife, Patsy Allen). Elijah Hiatt was said to be the richest man in Garrard County, owned about seventy-

five negroes, and a farm of twenty-five hundred acres. His house was near the station on the L. N. R. R., Hyattsville, named for him. He was a man of fine character and took a great pride in giving young men a start in the world. (His father, William Hiatt, and his wife's father, Richard Allen, were both in the Revolutionary service.)

Russell A. Harris' step children were Amanda Allen Beazley, Elijah William, John, Barbara Allen.

His own children were Dove Branham and Patsy Sally. Dove Branham is owner and principal of the Danville Business School, at Danville, Kentucky.

Patsy Sally married Simeon H. Anderson (only son of Thomas Anderson and his wife, Bettie Herndon). Their children were Alberta Branham, Harry F., Elizabeth, Carrie Walton, Sadie Russell and Patsy Sally.

R. A. Harris and his wife were noted for their hospitality. They lived near Old Antioch Church, the first Christian church in Garrard County. of which they were members, he being an elder at the time of his death. Their home was known as the home of the Preachers.

R. A. Harris was a trusted arbitrator, often called upon to settle differences in matters of State, County and neighborhood. He died November 13, 1886, and was buried in the Lancaster Cemetery.

A-5. Josephine C. Denton (daughter of Tyree Rodes Harris and his wife, Rachel Brown) married Thompson Denton. Their children were:

1. Nancy, who married William Wearen.
2. Bettie Denton, who first married Sam Hardin, second, Joseph Johnson.
3. Russell H. Denton, married Almira Burnside Harris June 20, 1844.
4. Pauline Denton, married James Hardesty.
5. John T. Denton, married first Jennie Jones, second, Annie Grimes.
6. Martha Denton, married James Stephens.
7. Annie Denton, married Burdett Wearen.
8. William, married Callie Higgings.

Josephine Denton was born March 4, 1818.

1. Nancy Denton (daughter of Thompson denton and his wife, Josephine Harris) married William Wearen. Their children were:

- (a) Annie, who married John James (son of Joseph McAlister James and his wife, Margaret Woods) was a Bap-

tist Minister. Their children were Margaret, Woods, James and Nancy Denton James.

(b) William Wearen married Katharine Baughman. To them were born two children: Sadie Harris Wearen and Annie James Wearen.

(c) Thompson Wearen.

2. Bettie Denton (daughter of Thompson Denton and his wife, Josephine C. Harris) married first Harvey Hardin, one son Samuel Hardin, second married Joseph Johnson. To them were born four children:

(a) McClellon Johnson, William T. Johnson, James Johnson, who died while serving in the Spanish American War, and Bettie May Johnson, who married Parish Taylor, Oakland, Mississippi.

(b) Annie Denton (daughter of Thompson Denton and his wife, Josephine C. Harris) married Burdett Wearen. Their children were George B. Wearen, Hettie Wearen and Nancy Bruce Wearen.

(c) Martha Denton (daughter of Thompson Denton and his wife, Josephine C. Harris) married James Stephens. Their children were Josephine Stephens and Annie May Stephens.

(d) William Denton (son of Thompson Denton and his wife, Josephine C. Harris) married Callie Higgings (daughter of Somon Higgings and his wife, Jane Buford). Their children were Katharine Denton, William Denton Jr. and Josephine Denton.

3. Russell Harris Denton, a Confederate Soldier (son of Thompson Denton and his wife, Josephine C. Harris) married Almira Burnside Harris (daughter of John Harris and his wife Annie Brown who was the daughter of Robert Brown and his wife, Betsy Crenshaw). Their children were:

- a. Lula Denton, married Samuel Rout.
- b. Dora Denton, married Samuel Cochran.
- c. Nancy T. Denton, married Victor Lear.
- d. Almira Denton, married William Fish.
- e. Katharine Denton, married J. W. Guyn.
- f. Etta Denton, married Philip Petus.
- g. Forest (deceased) married Lewis Ross.
- h. Annie Denton died in her eleventh year.

b. To Dora Denton and her husband, Samuel Cochran, were born:

- a. Lillian, who married K. Lackay.

- b. Gracie May, who married Russell Brown.
- c. Samuel D. Cochran.
- d. Eugene Cochran.

d. To Almira B. Denton and her husband, William Fish, were born:

- a. Allie Russell Fish.
- b. William Craig Fish.
- c. Francis M. Fish.
- d. Herbert N. Fish.
- e. Martha Ann Fish.
- f. Luther Egbert Fish.

c. To Nancy T. Denton and her husband, Victor Lear, were born:

- a. Burnie, who married Mark Wilkens.
- b. Mary Lee Lear.
- c. Victor Lear Jr.
- d. Nancy T. Lear.

5. John Denton (the son of Thompson Denton and his wife, Josephine Harris) was married first to America Jane Jones (the daughter of Thomas Jones and his wife, Emily Bogia). To them were born three children:

- a. Emma, married John Young.
- b. Thomas.

c. John William, married Matilda Leer (the daughter of James Monroe Leer and his wife, Amelia Turner). Their children were:

- (a) Annie Thomas Denton.
- (b) John Tyree Denton.
- (c) Cordia Buckley Denton.
- (d) Amelia Leer Denton.
- (e) Matilda Jane Denton.

5. John Denton's second wife was Miss Annie Grimes, the daughter of William Grimes and his wife, Miss Embry.

A-6. Overton Dabney Harris (son of Honorable Tyree Rodes Harris and his second wife, Mrs. John Branham (nee Rachel Brown) was born December 22, 1822, married Letitia Pearce. To them were born the following:

1. Jennie Harris, married J. Westley West. Their children were:

- (a) Millard West, who married.
- (b) Louis West, who married Cora Ward.

- (c) Charles West, who married.
- (d) William Bell West.
- (e) Thurston, who married.

2. Louis Level Harris, who married America Allender, one son, Walker Harris.

3. Mollie Harris, who first married Joseph Turner, second married

4. Bettie Morgan Harris, who married John Barnett.

5. Minnie Harris, who married Mr. Broadas.

6. Nannie Harris, who married Joseph Falconer.

A-7. Martha Tyree Harris (daughter of Tyree Rodes Harris and his wife, Mrs. John Branham (nee Rachel Brown) who married Jake Brown, the son of George Brown. Their children were as follows:

- 1. William, who married.
- 2. Arabia, who married.
- 3. Jake, bachelor.

Martha Tyree Harris was born May 30, 1826.

WILL OF ROBERT HARRIS

State of North Carolina, Surry County.

I, Robert Harris, of the said County and State, being in perfect sense and memory, calling to mind the mortality of mankind and as it is appointed once for all men to die, I therefore ordain this to be my last Will and Testament, and after paying all my just debts, what estate it hath pleased God to bless me with I give and bequeath in manner and form following:

FIRST. I give my soul to God who gave it and my body to the earth from whence it came, to be buried in such manner as executors hereafter named shall think fit.

ITEM. I give to my son, Elijah Harris, the land whereon I now live, it being the balance of the land that I have a deed for from Robert Lanier, which I give him and his heirs forever.

ITEM. Whereas, my son Tyree, son Bezaleel Brown, my son Bernice and daughter Lucretia have received one hundred pounds Virginia money out of my estate and the rest of my children have not, namely, Mourning Burch, Nancy Boon, the heirs of son Robert, Lucy Head, the heirs of Patsy Turner and heirs of Sarah Blackwell, my will is that there be out of my estate one hundred pounds Virginia money a-piece raised for them (except the heirs of Sarah Blackwell which—

only fifty pounds) allowing the rest of the heirs above mentioned to be equal to one legatee, which legacies I give to them and their heirs forever.

ITEM. I give to my granddaughter, Milly Harris, one horse and saddle, bed and furniture to her heirs forever.

The rest of my estate, be it of what denomination whatsoever to be sold, whether real or personal and equally divided between the above named legatees except Elijah which takes no share but the land I gave him.

I constitute and appoint my sons Bezeleel and Elijah to execute this, my last Will and Testament, revoking all other wills heretofore made.

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in the presence of _____ this tenth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and six.

ROBERT HARRIS, (Seal)

Test:

JOSEPH FORKNER,
JESSE McKENNEY,
ELIJAH DAVIS.

State of North Carolina, Surry County, November Session,
A. D., 1809.

Joseph Forkner, Jesse McKenney and Elijah Davis (the subscribing witnesses to the foregoing last Will and Testament of Robert Harris), made oath that they saw the said Robert Harris sign, publish and declare the same to be his last Will and Testament and that he was of sound mind and disposing mind and memory, which was ordered to be recorded.

Recorded accordingly. Jo Williams, C. C.

A True Copy of Record,

Test:

Deputy Clerk Superior Court.

BRANHAM

John Branham from Virginia, in 1796 married Rachel Brown, the daughter of Arabia Brown and his wife Elizabeth Doolin. Arabia Brown joined the Revolutionary Army in Bedford County, Virginia, was in Captain Boone's company. John Branham was one of the first traders to New Orleans, went in flat boats and walked back to avoid Indians. It took nearly a year to make the trip. His last trip was with a crop of tobacco, from which he never returned, supposed to have been murdered and robbed. After the loss of her husband, Mrs. Branham, with her two children (Barthenia and John Jr.) went to live with her father. Barthenia died when an infant. After all had despaired of his return, she married Honorable Tyree Rodes Harris in 1806. To them were born six children. (See Harris Record.)

Her son, John Branham, was born April 13, 1798. He was much beloved by his step-brothers and sisters, and half-brothers and sisters. At the age of fifteen he was sent to Lexington, Kentucky, to learn the stone mason trade, served two years. In 1815, he said his mother sold feathers and gave him \$16.00 with which to go to his step-brother, Bright Berry Harris, who was then located in Sumner County, Tennessee. The same spring he went to Nashville to work at his trade, made enough the first season to buy for himself a fine suit of clothes and money to spare. In 1809 he went to Kentucky to be with his mother while his step-father, Tyree Rodes Harris, went to North Carolina to be with his father (Captain Robert Harris) during his last illness. The date of the recording of Captain Robert Harris' Will in 1809 corresponds with this visit.

In April John Branham returned to Tennessee and went to work at Cairo. He married Miss Mary Parker in 1819. She aided him faithfully in every undertaking and their efforts were crowned with success. He purchased sixteen acres on Bledsoe's Creek, built a mill and a cotton gin. He continued to buy land till he owned twenty-five hundred acres, which he left his children, besides other property, after he had reared and educated them. But his best legacy was his fine character, being strong mentally and physically, chaste and strictly sober and a believer in God.

I had the very great privilege of seeing and knowing Uncle John for whom I was named. Uncle John was a man of wonderful mind. While he had very little advantage of an edu-

cation, he was a great reader and thinker; a self-educated gentleman of the highest type. I remember this little incident he told about his wife. When they first went to housekeeping, one evening he was lying on a sheep-skin, propped up by a chair, reading, while she was knitting, he dropped his book and gave one of his great laughs and said "Polly, you shall be the first one of the Parker sisters to ride in a carriage, with a negro driver, behind a span of horses." The tears began to trickle down her cheeks as she said "Mr. Branham I knew I married a poor man but I did not think I married a fool," at which he laughed the more. Before many years the prophecy was realized.

Those who attended him in his last days said his mind was clear to the end, notwithstanding he was near ninety years of age when his death occurred February 2, 1887.

John Branham, born April 13, 1798, married Mary Parker on May 11, 1820, who was born May 19, 1799. Their children were as follows:

1. Thomas Wiseman Branham, born April 20, 1821, died August, 1822.

2. Albert Gallatin Branham, born May 15, 1823, married Elizabeth Ferguson.

3. Barthenia Branham, born January 28, 1825, married Dr. James M. Head.

4. Cornelia Ines Branham, born March 29, 1829, married Dr. Jesse Johnston on October 19, 1841, one daughter, Lucy Johnson.

5. John Thomas Branham, born March 9, 1831, bachelor.

6. Susan Anne Branham, born April 6, 1833, died April 2, 1895, married James Mentlo, born June 13, 1835, died August 10, 1896.

7. Mary Elizabeth Branham, born July 16, 1835, married Dr. Charles Bright.

8. Sarah Francis Branham, born November 6, 1839, married Dr. Ed Drake.

9. Frances Milton Branham, born August 10, 1843, died early in life.

BROWN

The Brown family herein are of English origin, Anglo-Saxon. The original head of the American Branch, Benjamin Brown, in the early part of the eighteenth century, came from Wales, and settled temporarily in Hanover County, Virginia; subsequently he moved to Albermarle County, Virginia, and settled in Brown's Cove, the place where he made his permanent home, called Walnut Level or Trinidad. Its head, Benjamin, and his eldest son, Benjamin Jr., patented a large area of land in Louisa County, both before and after its establishment in 1742. They began to obtain grants in Albermarle also soon after its formation. From 1747 to 1760 they entered more than six thousand acres on both sides of Doyle River.

Benjamin Brown Sr. married Sarah Dabney, daughter of Cornelious Dabney and Sarah Jennings (his second wife) who was the only daughter of Charles Jennings, a brother of William Jennings, of Acton Place, London, who accumulated an immense fortune of many million dollars. He died a bachelor. His niece, Mrs. Sarah Jennings Dabney was the only heir to the enormous estate. Benjamin Brown Sr. died at his home Trinidad in Brown's Cove in 1762, leaving eleven children: Benjamin, William, Agnes, Barzillialia, Benejah, Bernard, Bernis, Bezaleel, Bright Berry, Elizabeth (wife of John Price) and Lucretia (wife of Captain Robert Harris). They were called the "B. Browns."

1. Benjamin Brown Jr. was a clergyman in the Revolutionary Army, a member of Light Horse Harry Lee's troops.

2. William Brown and his brother, Benjamin, were co-executors of his father's will.

3. Barzillai Brown sold out in Albermarle County and emigrated to Shelby County, Kentucky, in 1809.

4. Bright Berry Brown was captain of a company of volunteer cavalry in the Revolutionary War. He married Susan Thompson, had eight children. He died in 1846 at the age of eighty-four years.

5. Bezaleel was captain of a company of Virginia troops in the Revolutionary War, was magistrate of Albermarle County, and sheriff of the same county in 1805. He married Polly Thompson.

6. Bernard Brown was a soldier in the struggle for American independence, whose duty was to carry dispatches for General Washington, from New York to Charleston, South Carolina, and was chosen for that service because of

his trustworthiness and extraordinary powers of endurance, of whom his general said "That he could make the trip quicker than any other person in the service of whom he had knowledge." He was a practicing attorney at law of Albermarle County. He and his wife (Elizabeth Dabney) had twelve children. Two of his sons, twins, Robert and Reubin, emigrated to Sumner County, Tennessee. They were born January 16, 1777. Robert married Betsy Crenshaw and Reubin married his cousin, Lucy Brown (daughter of Bezaleel Brown). The brothers both reared families in Sumner County, Tenn., and many of their descendants live there now.

Bernice Brown was one of the early Methodist Preachers in the County of Albermarle, Va.; was a signer of Albermarle Declaration of Independence, April 21, 1779. Was an intimate friend of Thomas Jefferson. In the spring of 1781 during the Revolutionary War, Thomas Jefferson, who was Governor of Virginia, fearing the British might capture the State Archives which were then at Monticello, entrusted them secretly to him to take care of and conceal. He took them out to his home at Brown's Cove and with the assistance of an honest old mountaineer packed them upon the backs of mules and took them up over the "Black Rocks" in the Blue Ridge Mountains, not far from his home, and concealed them in a cave. The friends of Jefferson, knowing that Monticello was in great danger of being invaded by the British, would come to him and ask anxiously about the State Archives, and to them all the great Governor would only say "Never mind, they are safe." The invading army did get to Monticello, but failed to get their booty. The father of Democracy escaped on horseback (horse shot backwards) and the archives safe in the hands of his staunch Democratic friend.

Bernice Brown married Henrietta Rodes, a daughter of John Rodes and his wife Sarah Harris. He died in 1815, leaving six children.

7. Francina Benajah Brown, married Mary Jarmon, sold his Albermarle property and moved to Buckingham.

8. Elizabeth Brown, married John Price.

9. Agnes Brown married _____.

10. Lucretia Brown married Captain Robert Harris (son of Major Robert Harris and his wife, Mourning Glenn). He

was Captain of Virginia State Militia and served as such in the Revolutionary War. He emigrated to Surry County, North Carolina. They were my great grandparents.

The Brown family ranks among the first families of Virginia and ever held that position since Virginia has been their home. From their early settlement, their prominent part in public affairs, the high character generally prevalent among them, and the lasting impress they made on the natural scenery of the country is one of the most noted in its history. (Rev. Edgar Woods' History of Albermarle County, Virginia.)

HASSELL

Abraham Hassell moved from North Carolina, Pamlico Sound. He had two brothers, John Hassell and Acie Hassell, both of whom lived in Tennessee and had families. He also had three sisters:

1. Nancy, who married a Wormington and had several children, moved to Missouri.

2. Caroline, who married Wm. King, who lived in Galatin, Tennessee, and had eleven children, and

3. Orpoh, who married a Hardin and lived in South Tennessee.

Abraham Hassell married Christiana Spruell and they had two children, Jennett Hassell and Priscilla Hassell. Priscilla Hassell married twice, Wm. King and ——— Horne, by both of whom she had several children.

Jennett Hassell (born November 16, 1789, died 1868), son of Abraham Hassell and Christiana Spruell, married Jane Perviance, born December 24, 1793, died August 18, 1867), daughter of John Perviance and to them were born the following children:

- (a) Catharine S.
- (b) Milas J.
- (c) Martha King.
- (d) Harriet Newell.
- (e) Elizabeth.

a. Catharine S. Hassell married Charles Wm. Gray December 20, 1832, and they had the following children:

- 1. William Allen Gray, born June 20, 1835, died ———.
- 2. Charles Jennett Gray, born Sept. 16, 1837, died Sept. 23, 1906.
- 3. Matilda Jane Gray, born March 17, 1840, died January 5, 1911.

GRAY

Charles Jennett Gray married Mary Elizabeth Davis December 15, 1875. Five children:

1. Aylmer Hassell Gray, born Nov. 8, 1876.
2. Charles Griffin Gray, born Nov. 6, 1878, died Dec. 14, 1896.
3. Mary Davis Gray, born March 8, 1884.
4. Martha Stinson Gray, born March 24, 1886.
5. Henry Grady Gray, born Nov. 2, 1891.

1. Aylmer Hassell Gray married Mary Olive Austin January 15, 1899. Two children:

- (a) Aylmer Hassell Gray Jr., born July 1, 1900, single.
- (b) Martha Nell Gray, born January 15, 1907, single.

3. Mary Davis Gray married Thos. Connell May 26, 1904. Four children:

- (a) Tinsley Gray Connell, born March 24, 1905.
- (b) Charles Griffin Connell, born Oct. 13, 1906.
- (c) Corrine Connell, born Oct. 7, 1908, died Sept. 9, 1909.
- (d) Jack Hassell Connell, born March 2, 1913.

5. Henry Grady Gray married Nellie Carlton, August 26, 1926.

Harriet N. Hassell married Wm. P. Houghton and they had the following children:

1. Milus W., who married Cornelia L. Burns, no children.
2. Mary Jane, who married Dr. Paul Lawrence, and they had nine children:
 - (a) P. A. Lawrence, who married Kate Murff.
 - (b) Hattie H., who married J. Aylmer Alfred.
 - (c) Browning Lawrence, who married Ed E. Walker.
 - (d) Mary Eva Lawrence.
 - (e) Katie Gray Lawrence.
 - (f) Thomas Humphrey Lawrence.
 - (g) Myrtis Jackson Lawrence.
 - (h) Lucile Lawrence.
 - (i) Amanda Susan Lawrence.

As already stated, Martha King Hassell married Isaac W. Harris, Elizabeth Hassell married Albert G. Harris, Milas J. Hassell married Ann E. Harris and Wm. A. Gray married Sarah Harris and the names of their children are set forth above.

WALTON

The Walton family were from Bertie County, North Carolina. William Walton and Rachael Walton, husband and wife, had the following children:

1. Timothy. 1235100
2. John.
3. William, who married Sarah Jones.
4. Rachael, who married ——— Garrett.
5. Thomas.
6. Sarah.
7. Isaac, who married Katharine Perry.
8. Anne, who married Dr. Jones.
9. James.
10. Cilia.

7. Isaac Walton and his wife Katharine Perry had the following children:

1. Mary, who married ——— Moore.
2. Caroline, who married King Luton.
3. Josiah, who married Sarah Walker.
4. Sarah, who married Bright B. Harris.
5. William, who married Matilda Baker.
6. Anne, who married Enoch Prince.
7. Elizabeth, who married ———
8. Olivia who married Wm. Prince.
9. Katharine, who married Levi Baker.
10. John, who married (first) Charity Perry and (second) Minerva Miller.
11. Isabella.

Isaac Walton was a member from Sumner County of the first Constitutional Convention of Tennessee.

EARLY SETTLER OF TENNESSEE

BRIEF SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN WILLIAM WALTON

Who Staked Out Carthage

Was a Revolutionary Hero—Was in Hardy Murfree's Battalion
and Participated in the Storming of Stony Point—the
Walton Road

(Taken from the Nashville American)

At this time when the State is about to celebrate the Centennial anniversary of her birth, the early history and the pioneers who hewed the way for the later magnificent development are interesting subjects of study. Among those who served with the outposts of civilization in the olden times in this immediate vicinity was Capt, William Walton. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and later a resident of this section. The following brief sketch of him was written by Capt. W. B. Walton, himself a veteran of the Mexican war, as a matter of family interest, and was kindly furnished "The American" by the writer.

The sketch follows:

Capt. William Walton was a native of Bertie Count, N. C., and was born in 1760. He was of English Cavalier descent, attained his early manhood about the beginning of the war of independence, and at once, at the age of 17, enlisted as a private in Maj. Hardy Murfree's North Carolina Battalion, and saw his first service under Gen. "Mad Anthony" Wayne in the north, participating in the capture of Stony Point, July 16, 1779. Subsequently he served as Second Lieutenant in the Seventh Regiment of the North Carolina line under Gen. Lincoln, taking part in the disastrous affairs of Savannah and Charleston, and became prisoner of war on the surrender of the latter city May 12, 1780. On being exchanged he was promoted to a Captaincy in the First North Carolina regiment, serving under Gen. Greene until the close of the war in 1783. His last battle was at Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781, where he was again made prisoner, but paroled a few days after by the British General, Stewart, on his precipitate retreat from the Eutaw battlefield to Charleston.

Captain Walton married Miss Sarah Jones in December, 1783, and in 1785, in company with his younger brother Isaac

moved west to the Cumberland country (now Middle Tennessee), following the only route then open, via Watauga, Cumberland Gap and Central Kentucky, then southward to Manscoe's Station (now Goodlettsville), twelve miles northeast of Nashville. Here he located his family under the protection (against Indians) of a garrisoned stockade fort. In the year 1786 himself and Capt. Tillman Dixon, a fellow officer of the Revolution, ascended the Cumberland river from Manscoe's Creek in a canoe, to select and locate the lands awarded them by the State of North Carolina for military services. Capt. Dixon located his cabin at Dixon's Springs, which still bears his name, and Capt. Walton located at the confluence of the Caney Fork and the Cumberland on the north bank of the latter river. Here in 1786 he built his cabin and at once began opening up farm lands.

The country at that time was covered with heavy forests with a dense undergrowth of cane, inhabited by wild animals and lurking red men in search of pale-face scalps. It was not a child's play undertaking, but with the protection of a stockade fort and a few riflemen, after nine years of judicious and laborious industry the wilderness home was ready to receive its occupants; and in 1796 Capt. Walton removed his family from Manscoe's Station to the new homestead and became permanently settled.

Smith County (taken from Sumner County), was organized in 1799; in which Capt. Walton was a prominent and active participant and a member of the first court in the county, which held its first session at Maj. Dixon's (where John P. Seay now lives), December 16, 1799, and was composed of the following members: Garrtee Fitzgerald, William Alexander, James Givens, Tillman Dixon, Thomas Harman, James Hibbett, William Walton and Peter Turney. Moses Fisk was made clerk and Amos Lacey, Constable. The place for holding court (for four years alternated between the places of William Alexander, Maj. Dixon, William Walton and Peyton's Creek, until the year 1804, when an election was held to locate the county seat, the above-named places being contestants. The voting continued for three days under intense excitement at Walton's house, and resulted in his favor by one vote; and he soon thereafter laid out the county town (Carthage) on his service right lands, and donated a square in the center of the town to the county for a courthouse site and other public purposes.

Knowing from experience and observation the difficulties in reaching the Cumberland country (now Middle Tennessee)

by the long circuitous route, the only one then open, by way of Cumberland Gap and Central Kentucky, Capt. Walton determined to open a wagon road by a more direct route from Southwest Point (now Kingston), on the Clinch river, 100 miles over the Cumberland Mountains, to the confluence of Caney Fork and Cumberland rivers. In 1799, during the session of the Legislature then sitting at Knoxville, Walton applied for, and procured the appointment of a commission to mark out and locate a wagon road between the points above indicated. William Walton and William Martin of Smith county, and Robert Koyle of Hawkins County, were appointed commissioners and did the work in compliance with the requirements of the act of October 26, 1799. Capt. Walton contracted to open and build the road. This he did and subsequently became the owner of it, and established along the route stands at which he kept supplies derived mainly from his Cumberland river farm for the accommodation of emigrants.

The first of these stands going east, from Carthage, was located near Pekin, Putnam County; the second at White Plains, at the western foot of the mountains; the third at Crab Orchard, on the plateau of the mountains, in Cumberland County, and the fourth at Kimbroughs, at the eastern foot of the mountains in Roane County.

The construction of this road was a great achievement for that day and time, considering the rough topography of the route, the difficulty of keeping supplies for the workers, over the long route hauled by wagons, and the dangers from marauding bands of Indians. To build a railroad over the same route at the present time would be a much safer and a more agreeable undertaking.

The N. & K. Railroad now closely parallels the Walton Road from Carthage to Kingston. The highway was completed and thrown open to travel in 1801, and being nearer than the Kentucky route by one-half or more it resulted in turning to this route a large number of emigrants from Virginia and the Carolinas, seeking homes in Middle and West Tennessee, and beyond the Mississippi and Ohio, hence greatly expedited the populating of transmountain Tennessee, and the more speedy building up of our present great state and commonwealth.

Capt. Walton lived to see the beneficent effects of his greatest achievement, and to enjoy the fruits of his well-earned labor for fifteen years. He died on March 6, 1816, at the comparatively early age of 56 years, at his hospitable home, carved out of the wilderness by his own exertions. He lies buried

nearby where the old homestead once stood. By his side sleeps his faithful wife and true helpmate, together with a number of his descendants, old pioneer associates, and the early-day citizens of Carthage and that vicinity.

This historic and sacred old burial place, the first opened in Smith County, is still held by a grandson of its founder and bearing his honored name.

In person, Capt. Walton was of commanding presence, firm and sincere, without austerity, and so gentle and genial in deportment as to win lasting friends, his house was ever opened to friends and the friendless, to whom he dispensed hospitality with liberal hands, but so managed his affairs as to leave his children in independent circumstances. His life as a whole was phenomenally successful, beneficent and happy far beyond the great masses of his fellows.

W. B. WALTON.

NOTES OF M. K. HARRIS

Some of my nieces have requested me to put in writing my recollections of persons, places, customs and manner of life in middle Tennessee during the time of my boyhood, which would go back to a few years prior to the Civil War. This may not be strictly a part of a family history or genealogy, still, it should, and doubtless will, be of interest to the younger and coming generations of the family.

Though young at the time I have quite a distinct memory of things and events as far back as the year 1860.

Before proceeding, however, I desire to state that for the foregoing compilations affecting the early history of the Harris and connected families, we are indebted to Miss Dove Branham Harris, a daughter of Russell A. Harris. My work has to do only with the children and descendants of Bright Berry Harris, the Walton, Bell and Hassell families.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to Cousin Dove for her thoughtful, efficient and unselfish labors.

All the families in this record mentioned are of English, Scotch and Irish stock, of what is called in England the middle class, that is, not belonging to the nobility or peasant class; a part of that sturdy race of people that in Colonial times came over and settled Virginia, North Carolina and other colonies.

The Harris' came from England to Virginia about the middle of the Seventeenth Century, thence our ancestor Captain Robert Harris went to North Carolina, thence his son Tyree Rodes Harris in the latter part of the Eighteenth Century moved to Kentucky and settled in what is now Garrard County, where he raised a family of twelve children. One of these, Bright Berry Harris, in early manhood went to Sumner County in Middle Tennessee, in the early part of the Nineteenth Century.

The Waltons and Hassells were among those hardy pioneers who crossed the mountains from North Carolina and settled in Tennessee, in what was then known as the Cumberland country, the Waltons locating in Davidson County where the village of Goodlettsville is situated, and the Hassells in the western part of Sumner County near Station Camp Creek. Bright B. Harris, my paternal grandfather, lived on the Pe-De creek, a short distance above where it flows into Station Camp Creek.

It will be noted from the foregoing record that three chil-

dren and one grand son of Jennett Hassell married four children of Bright B. Harris, to-wit:

Isaac Walton Harris to Martha King Hassell, Albert A. Harris to Elizabeth Hassell, Milas J. Hassell to Ann E. Harris and Wm. A. Gray to Sarah Jane Harris.

Jennett Hassell, my maternal grandfather, lived about a half mile from my home and I remember him well.

He was a somewhat corpulent man, of medium height, thin white hair, smooth shaven, but a sturdy looking set of whiskers sticking up from somewhere below his collar. His dress was plain, home-spun jeans in winter and cotton and linen in summer.

He owned and successfully cultivated a large farm, and up to the Civil War owned thirty or forty Negro slaves.

He was an outstanding character in the community, had an unusually well balanced mind, of unquestioned integrity, methodical, deliberate to a degree, charitable and deeply religious.

He rode horseback everywhere and was never known to ride faster than a walk, rain or shine. Family prayers were had in the evening. With the members of the household gathered around, by the light of a candle he read from the Bible in measured tones, and "Then kneeling down to Heaven's Eternal King,
The saint, the father, and the husband prayed."

My grandmother Hassell was a most unusual woman, of fine mental poise, and was widely known for her wisdom, her charity, her piety, and all those noble qualities that go to make up the character of a good Christian woman. Their children, all of whom I remember, except my mother and Aunt Elizabeth were entirely worthy of such parents.

I also remember well my Harris grandparents. She was a quiet and sensible, kind hearted Christian woman, her time and energies fully occupied looking after her household and the welfare of the numerous colored women and children on the place, doing deeds of charity in the neighborhood and loved and respected by all who knew her. At the time my grandmothers were married it was the custom for a bride to don a lace cap the day after she was married and to wear one the rest of her life. Both of my grandmothers conformed to this custom.

My grandfather Harris was an unusual and striking personality. He was exactly the opposite to my grandfather Hassell in manners and appearance. He was stockily built, his head covered with a thick shock of curly iron-gray hair, of tremendous nervous energy, and always rode, walked and talked in a hurry. I have a mental picture of him as he used to come up the road to our house, on a big, powerful horse, in a sweeping gallop, his arms and legs flying up and down.

His voice was loud and sonorous, and when he talked reminded one of a rapid firing gun. He was a man of courage and determination. Once when he had a persistently aching tooth he arose from his bed at night and pulled it out himself with a pair of shoe-pincers. My grandfather was an excellent farmer, and took great pride in raising fine stock, horses, cattle, sheep and hogs, and exhibiting them at the county agricultural fairs.

The farmers lived well and a generous spirit of hospitality prevailed. I have been present at dinners when there would be from fifteen to twenty guests, waited upon by a swarm of colored boys and girls. Stoves were not then in use, and the meat, frequently including whole pigs, lambs, turkeys or pea-fowls was cooked in utensils on the great kitchen hearth and in steaming pots and kettles suspended from the crane in the spacious fireplace. An ancient colored "mammy" presided over the kitchen, and a queen on her throne never ruled with a higher hand. Even ol' Miss was careful not to interfere when Aunt Alsey had all her fires burning. The kitchen was situated some distance from the "big house," the name by which the residence of the white family was called by the Negroes, and the food when cooked was borne in triumph into the dining room on the heads of young colored boys and girls. There were no screen doors or windows in those days and while the white folks were at dinner little colored boys in one-piece garments, a long shirt, in warm weather kept off the flies with brushes made from the tail feathers of peacocks. The meals were breakfast, dinner (at noon) and a supper in the evening.

The activities of the day were set in motion, winter and summer, promptly at 4 o'clock in the morning. At this fateful hour ol' master had the house colored boy sleeping in his room run out and vigorously ring a big bell hanging in the top of a tree in the back yard, and at its first peal every one on the place, white and black, promptly got up and out. Breakfast was usually had by candle light. At noon this bell (at some

places a horn was blown), was rung to bring the hands in from the fields to dinner.

The residence was a long two-story house on a bluff overlooking a small creek, the Pe-De, a short distance above its confluence with West Station Camp Creek.

On the opposite side of the creek on a bluff above the Station Camp resided Joseph Walton, a brother of my grandmother Harris.

The people in Middle Tennessee were nearly all of English and Scotch descent, and had come across the Cumberland mountains from Virginia and North Carolina where they and their ancestors had helped fight the battles of the Revolution.

It may not be out of place to speak briefly of Negro slavery which existed in Tennessee and other Southern States up to the time of the Civil War, as many erroneous ideas about it prevail in some portions of the country. All our people, like most others in Tennessee, were slave-holders, but not in large numbers individually. The number to a white family would run from five or ten to forty or fifty. My father, Isaac W. Harris, owned about thirty-five or forty.

The word "slave" sounds harsh, and at its utterance, scenes depicted in Uncle Tom's Cabin arise, but the institution, aside from the principle of one human being owning another, was not so awful and cruel as it was represented to be. It was of a patriarchal, benevolent character, the Negroes being looked upon as belonging to a man's household. I once heard a prominent white man, in speaking of moving from one part of the state to another, say, that he first moved his black family, and then his white family.

The Negroes were treated with uniform kindness and consideration. Severe or harsh masters were rare, and a man who mistreated his Negroes lost caste with his neighbors. There was always a strong bond of friendship and sympathy between masters and servants. I don't think I ever heard the word slave applied to them. This was manifested in many ways, as in sickness, troubles and misfortunes. Children of the masters were as promptly and sternly called to account for being disrespectful to elderly colored people as if the affront had been offered to a white person. The Negroes were not overworked, were well housed, warmly and comfortably clothed and, although in bondage, were cheerful and happy. Sundays and Saturday afternoons they had to themselves.

Each family had truck gardens and raised their pigs and poultry. Their food was the same as that of the whites and was wholesome and abundant. When sick they were attended by the family physician for the whites. In short they were treated as human beings and their conditions softened and lightened in every way possible. Northern people have wondered at the fidelity and unshaken loyalty shown by the Negroes to their former masters during the Civil War; but to a person familiar with the real situation there was no cause for surprise. Negro children were rarely punished or corrected by the whites, their rearing and conduct being, for the most part, left to their own parents. White and black children on a place played with each other unrestrictedly and when older hunted together. It never occurred to either that one was free and the other bond.

The Negroes were very superstitious and frequently imbued the minds of white children with their superstitions. They believed in a Bad Man (the Devil) and that he roamed the forests at night and frequented graveyards; that spirits and "hants" (haunts) prowled around old buildings and unfrequented places; that to unsex a female dog would cause her to chase and tree spirits; that the old Bad Man could sometimes be heard rattling chains when a "bad Nigger" was near; that the hoot of an owl and the continued howling of a dog were sure signs of death in the family; that certain Negroes, especially "Ginny" (Guinea) Negroes had an occult power and could and frequently did put spells on other Negroes they did not like.

Most of them were religious and believed in the Good Man and the Bad Man. They were very musical and sang many quaint songs. I remember a song often sung by Aunt Alsey, the cook, as she busied herself about her work. I only remember a fragment:

"The sun went down in a golden stream,
The moon refused to shine,
And every star disappeared,
But Jesus he is mine.

CHORUS:

Land over shore, land over shore,
Land over shore, forever, ever more.

I had a loving sister,
She was lately born of God;
She went from door to door
To spread the news abroad."

CHORUS:

Another song I remember hearing the darkies sing ran something like this:

“Wire, brier, limber lock,
Three wild geese in a flock,
One flew East, one flew West,
And one flew over the Coo-coo’s nest,
Jambo-reho and jambo-reho, etc.”

On the whole Negroes lived as happily as, if not happier than their white masters. This is not written in defense of human slavery, but merely throwing light upon its actual conditions in the South. Many Southern people believed that the Negroes should be given their freedom, but the question was, what was a practical method of doing it. Slavery was not profitable in a business sense in the North, and many Northern people thought their slaves should be emancipated, but it is significant that when getting rid of them they did not give them their freedom but sold them down South. Negroes were being sold in New York and other Northern states as late as the time when the adoption of the Federal Constitution was under discussion by Madison, Hamilton and others.

Had it not been for radicals like Garrison, Lovejoy and Phillips and others like them in the South, emancipation would have come peaceably and without a great civil war.

Returning to the primary purpose for which these notes are written:

Tennessee and doubtless many other portions of the country at the time of which I write was as nearly self-supporting as any country in the world. Practically everything used or necessary in the support of a family in the way of food and clothing was produced on the farm. Perhaps not a great deal of money was made according to present notions, but enough.

As an example, in my father’s family there were eight white persons and about thirty Negroes. These were all supported in comfort on a farm of about five hundred acres. The clothing for winter was made from the wool of sheep, in summer from cotton and flax produced on the place. The staples were spun on spinning wheels and woven into cloth in hand looms, by the colored women, and the cloth cut and made into garments.

The boots and shoes were made by one of the Negroes

from hides of cattle killed on the place and tanned into leather in a neighboring tan-yard. Even the pegs used in the shoes were made by the shoemaker. The principal meat was pork, killed and cured in the fall and winter in sufficient quantities to last until hog-killing time the next year. After being salted down for a few weeks the meat was hung up in the smoke-house and smoked for several months. The hogs were fattened on corn and pumpkins, and the meat was wholesome and palatable. A man who ran out of meat and had to buy was regarded as a poor manager and somewhat trifling.

In each neighborhood there was a "Beef-Club" composed of from eight to twenty farmers that supplied its members with fresh beef during spring and summer. Each member furnished a yearling specially fattened, and once a week a beef would be butchered at some central place and divided among its members, a prize being given at the end of the season to the one furnishing the best beef, and a fine imposed on the one who had furnished the poorest one.

All flour and corn meal were made from wheat and corn home grown. The grain was ground in neighborhood grist mills, generally run by water power. There were three products made from the wheat: brand, shorts and flour. The flour was not near so white as at present, but much more nutritious. The shelled corn in sacks was taken to the mill once a week horseback, a boy riding the bag. It was then ground, each sack in its turn, and every person carried back home his own corn converted into meal.

Milk, butter, eggs, poultry, all kinds of fruits and vegetables were raised, and about the only articles of food not produced at home were salt, black pepper, coffee and sugar.

Candles furnished light, and were made once a week of beef fat or tallow melted and run into molds. Soap was, also, a home product. Wood ashes were put into an ash-hopper having a drain at the bottom and water poured on the ashes, the lye resulting ran out the drain into a bucket; this was boiled in a big iron kettle into which was put fat and pieces of fat meat, called soap-grease. This soap when made might not have had the fragrance of present day toilet soaps, but as a real cleaner, it had no equal.

The grain was cut with hand-cradles, a sickle with long wooden fingers, tied into bundles, hauled to the barn, scattered on a big threshing floor and horses driven round on it, or it was flailed out, winnowed, the straw thrown aside and the

grain put in the grainery. Before sending it to the mill it was run through a fanning mill, run by hand, and in this way thoroughly cleaned of all trash and straw.

The sports on the farm were swimming, breaking and riding colts and calves and hunting. The game hunted comprised foxes, coons, possums, squirrels, rabbits and partridges, all found on the farm, and numerous. Rabbits and partridges were hunted in the day time, and the other game at night.

School was taught in a log house, to reach which the children had to walk from a half mile to two miles. School opened about eight A. M. in winter and probably an hour earlier in the spring and fall, and closed in time, if we walked briskly, for us to get home between sundown and dark. The big girls swept the schoolroom and the big boys brought in the wood and water and made the fires.

Corporal punishment was administered at times but not frequently. The knowledge that it would be resorted to if needed had a most quieting affect on the youthful mind.

The games played at school were jumping, running foot races, town ball, prison base, bull-pen, hot ball, shinny and marbles. Baseball had not then appeared, but town ball much resembled it, the chief difference being that in town ball the ball was a small solid rubber ball, the bats small, tough sticks, and the pitcher pitched for the strikers on his own side. Instead of trying to make the striker miss, the aim was to pitch the ball in such a manner as would enable him to hit it to the best advantage.

Shinny was played something like polo, but, of course, no horses. The rules required each player to keep his right side to the ball in striking, and if he got on the other side a nearby opponent would give the warning cry, "Shinny on your own side," which, if not observed would be followed by a quick lick on the shins of the offending player with a stick. Hence the name, shinny.

The principal studies in ordinary country schools were spelling, reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic and geography. but these were taught very thoroughly. The books used were: Webster's Blue Back Spelling Book, Goodrich's and McGuffey's Readers, Smith's Grammar, Davies' and Ray's Arithmetics. Every teacher was a good penman, and writing was taught by the teacher writing a line in a copy book and the pupil required to copy it.

Of course, there were schools where Greek, Latin, higher mathematics and other advanced studies were taught.

During a school session, about ten months a year, our only holiday, except Saturday's and Sundays, was Christmas day. Going to school was a most serious business with parents as well as children. Absence from school was not tolerated or thought of except in case of sickness or some other serious reason. There was plenty of time for wholesome exercise, but none of it was taken from study hours. This training of children in industry, obedience and self-denial was designed to prepare them for the real duties and activities of life. Education did not come as easy as it does now and for that reason was all the more appreciated.

There were no public schools and the parents furnished the books and paid the teacher. The teachers were educated men and women and quite well qualified to teach.

Christmas was the great holiday of the year and about the only one. It was ushered in before daybreak by the firing of guns, firecrackers, and the explosion of hog-bladders which had been inflated at hog-killing time and kept for the great occasion.

It was an event of unbounded happiness and merry-making among the Negroes. They came around Christmas morning while it was yet dark, singing Christmas songs, and "catching Christmas gifts" from the white people, expecting and receiving tokens of friendship and esteem. The words "Christmas Gift" was the greeting instead of "Merry Christmas."

There was a custom, that the Negroes did not have to work so long as the back-log used in making the fire in the big house Christmas morning lasted, and consequently there was much care exercised in selecting and preparing this log, seeing that it was as large as the big fireplace would hold, that it was green and solid and that it had been thoroughly soaked in water for several days before used. As a result holiday usually lasted until New Year's Day. Christmas presents to children were put in stockings hung up by the fireplace Christmas Eve, and the stockings were usually ample for that purpose. A child now receives more presents at one Christmas than a youngster in those days received in his whole childhood.

Sunday was strictly observed, and everybody went to church. A white man found violating the Sabbath by working, hunting or fishing was looked down upon and hardly consid-

ered respectable. The men and women entered at different doors of the church and sat separate from each other, the men sitting on one side and the women on the other.

There were not enough hymn books to go round, so the pastor would interline the hymn to be sung, that is, he would read two lines, which would be sung by the congregation, and the next two lines read and sung, and so on. There were, I think, only two tunes, long meter and short meter.

Ladies usually, except old ladies, wore hoop skirts, and these sometimes were so large that they barely permitted the wearer to pass through an ordinary door. Had a lady worn a dress so short as to expose her ankle six inches she would have been disgraced.

A wedding in the neighborhood was the great social event. The ceremony was had at the home of the bride's parents in the presence of a large assemblage of the country-side, with a wedding supper, followed the next night by the "infair" at the home of the groom's parents. There were no divorces in those days. A husband and wife would about as soon be expected to practice cannibalism as to get a divorce. The reason of this was that when a young couple married they thought of nothing else than to build a home, have children, in which the man was to be the bread-winner and the wife looked after the children and household affairs.

Now the newlyweds board or rent an apartment and the wife works for money the same as the husband. There is no real home life; the whole thing is a kind of partnership affair, in which children do not figure.

Fifty years ago in Tennessee big families were the rule. As an illustration, my grandfather Harris had nine children and forty-nine grandchildren and my grandfather Hassell had five children and twenty-five grandchildren. Such families were not at all unusual and many were much larger.

In 1875 Gen. T. H. Bell with his children moved to Fresno County, California. Afterwards my brothers, C. C. Harris and his family, Lsaac and Albert Harris and their families came out.

I attended school at Kentucky University at Lexington, 1871-3, taught school four years, attended Vanderbilt Law School where I graduated in June, 1873, and in August of the same year came to Fresno City where I have practiced law ever since except eight years I was a Superior Judge.

I knew Gen. Bell quite intimately and he was a fine specimen of an American citizen. He was a brigadier general in Gen. Forest's command in the Confederate Army and had the reputation of being a brave and gallant soldier.

In 1884 I went back to Tennessee and married Miss Julia Tyree. We have always lived in the same house, built in contemplation of our approaching marriage.

I must be pardoned for saying just a word about her. She is and has always been the wisest, noblest, most unselfish person I have ever known; so thoughtful of old people, so mindful of the poor, the sick and unfortunate. After more than forty years of married life I can say that she never had a selfish thought or unworthy motive. Her whole life has been given to the welfare and happiness of others.

In conclusion, to the young people of our family who may read these notes I would say: That honesty in every transaction of life is the best; at times a different course may seem to offer advantages, but in the long run to act dishonorably is always a detriment. There is nothing for which a man can exchange his honor and integrity. One last word: In whatever walk of life always aim and try to be a leader in the business in which you are engaged. Don't be satisfied with being just a good, average man in the community.

